



National Agricultural  
Statistics Service

# News Release

Maryland & Delaware Field Offices • 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway • Annapolis, MD 21401 • [www.nass.usda.gov/md](http://www.nass.usda.gov/md)

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## First USDA Forecast of 2006 Corn and Soybean Production

**Maryland:** Growers expect to harvest 400,000 acres of corn for grain this year, same as 2005. The crop is expected to yield 142 bushels per acre, up from 135 bushels per acre last year. If realized, the estimated corn production of 56.8 million bushels would be 5 percent above the 2005 production. Soybean yield is forecast at 41 bushels per acre, up 7 bushels per acre from the final 2005 yield. With 440,000 acres of soybeans expected to be harvested, total production is estimated at 18.0 million bushels, up 13 percent from 2005. With wheat harvest complete, yield is estimated at 67 bushels per acre translating to a crop of 8.7 million bushels. Barley yields are estimated at 86 bushels per acre, equal to the final 2005 yield. However, barley production is estimated to be nearly 430,000 bushels lower than the previous year due to 5,000 less acres harvested for grain. Maryland apple production is forecast to drop 7.3 percent from 2005 to 38.0 million pounds. Peach production is also down from last year and is currently forecast at 3,800 tons.

**Delaware:** Corn for grain is expected to yield 145 bushels per acre this year, up 2 bushels per acre from 2005. With 155,000 acres expected to be harvested, production is estimated at 22.5 million bushels. Soybeans are forecast to yield 38 bushels per acre this year, up 12 bushels per acre from last year. Yield for winter wheat is estimated at 65 bushels per acre, down 5 bushels from 2005. With 47,000 acres harvested this year, wheat production is estimated at 3.1 million bushels, down from 3.6 million bushels harvested in 2005. Barley growers harvested an estimated 24,000 acres of barley with an average yield of 78 bushels per acre. Yield is down 3 bushels from last year and 2005 production is estimated at 1.9 million bushels.

**United States:** Corn production is forecast at 11.0 billion bushels, down 1 percent from last year and 7 percent below 2004. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 152 bushels per acre, up 4.3 bushels from last year. If realized, yield would be the second largest and production would be the third largest on record. Forecast yields across the Great Plains and western Corn Belt are at or below last year as scarce precipitation and above normal temperatures depleted soil moisture levels and caused crop conditions to decline. Expected yields are generally higher than last year in the eastern Corn Belt and Ohio Valley as frequent rainfall and near normal temperatures throughout much of the growing season helped maintain adequate soil moisture. The largest yield increase from last year is in Illinois where farmers expect to average 172 bushels per acre, 29 bushels above last year's drought-reduced yield. The largest yield decreases are expected in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and North Dakota.

Soybean production is forecast at 2.93 billion bushels, down 5 percent from 2005 and down 6 percent from 2004. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 39.6 bushels per acre, down 3.7 bushels from the record high U.S. yield set last year. Yields are lower than 2005 throughout the Great Plains, the western Corn Belt, and the Gulf Coast States, while yields are expected to remain unchanged or increase in the Ohio Valley, Arkansas, Missouri, and the Atlantic Coast States. Area for harvest, at 73.9 million acres, remains unchanged from June but is up 4 percent from 2005.

**ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION 2005 AND 2006**

Commodity	Unit	Planted		Harvested		Average Yield		Production	
		2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
Maryland		1,000 Acres				1,000			
Corn <sup>1</sup>	ACR	470	480	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	400	400	135	142	54,000	56,800
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	65	----	17	----	1,105	----
Soybeans	BU	480	450	470	440	34	41	15,980	18,040
Winter Wheat	BU	155	200	140	130	66	67	9,240	8,710
Barley	BU	46	52	41	36	86	86	3,526	3,096
All Hay	TON	----	----	190	200	2.79	----	531	----
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	40	40	3.90	----	156	----
Other Hay	TON	----	----	150	160	2.50	----	375	----
Apples	LBS	----	----	----	----	----	----	41,000	38,000
Peaches	TON	----	----	----	----	----	----	4.2	3.8
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	3.5	4.0	3.4	4.0	260	240	884	960
Delaware									
Corn <sup>1</sup>	ACR	160	165	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	154	155	143	145	22,022	22,475
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	5	----	19	----	95	----
Soybeans	BU	185	180	182	178	26	38	4,732	6,764
Winter Wheat	BU	52	48	51	47	70	65	3,570	3,055
Barley	BU	29	27	27	24	81	78	2,187	1,872
All Hay	TON	----	----	14	13	2.79	----	39	----
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	5	4	3.60	----	18	----
Other Hay	TON	----	----	9	9	2.30	----	21	----
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	3.3	3.0	3.1	3.0	260	240	806	720
United States								1,000,000	
Corn <sup>1</sup>	ACR	81,759	79,366	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	75,107	72,091	148	152	11,112	10,976
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	5,920	----	18	----	106	----
Soybeans	BU	72,142	74,930	71,361	73,935	43	40	3,086	2,928
Wheat, Winter	BU	40,433	41,393	33,794	31,108	44	41	1,499	1,283
Barley	BU	3,875	3,496	3,269	2,990	65	61	212	183
All Hay	TON	----	----	61,649	62,697	2.44	2.27	151	142
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	22,389	22,407	3.38	3.18	76	71
Other Hay	TON	----	----	39,260	40,290	1.91	1.77	75	71
Apples	LBS	----	----	----	----	----	----	9,865	9,620
Peaches	TON	----	----	----	----	----	----	1.18	1.05
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	53.4	58.7	51.4	56.8	342	330	17.6	18.7

1 Acres planted for all purposes.